

## THE ANTIQUARY.

SATURDAY, JAN. 27, 1872.

## DONIERT'S STONE.

CORNWALL possesses more than an average number of rude, inscribed monuments of great antiquity. They were originally set up either by the Romans, or by the native inhabitants after the departure of their conquerors, or lastly, in still later times, but prior to the Norman invasion, by a mixed race of people who supplanted the Celtic population. "Some of these stones," says Professor Westwood, "are simply flat blocks or shafts destitute of all ornament, or religious character, resembling in this respect the stones of an analogous character, found in such abundance in Wales and other parts of the west of England. The inscriptions themselves afford very excellent materials for the study of our early palæography, being generally in debased Roman capital characters, with scarcely any intermixture of the Hiberno-Saxonian, or minuscule characters. The orthography and formulæ of the inscriptions also betoken a nearer approach to the Roman period than is made by the more ornamental stones, such as the crosses of Doniert and Leviut,\* in which, as on some of the Welsh stones, we find a prayer for the repose of the soul of the departed."

In the present paper my intention will be to give a general account of the former of the "ornamental stones," mentioned by Professor Westwood, in the above paragraph. Doniert's stone, then, lies in the eastern division of the county of Cornwall, in the parish of St. Cleer, a little to the north of Liskeard. Before archaeological excursions were as common as they now are, the very existence of this inscribed monument was known only to a few of the residents close by, so that tourists and others who had read of it either in Camden or Borlase, and who had come to search it out, had some little difficulty in ascertaining in what particular field or close it was situated. Thus we find Mr. Bond, of East Looe, who went with a party to visit this and other antiquities in the neighbourhood in 1802, writing—"I made inquiry at the house at Redgate after this monument, but could get no account of it for some time, though I questioned in a variety of ways; at last, however, we got information where it was situated. It is about a quarter of a mile off from Redgate, eastward, in a field next the high road. We got into this field, and seeing an erect stone went towards it, and found it to be the monument we sought. One moor stone stands erect, and the other with the inscription on it lies in a pit close by." This stone has since been raised from the desecrated position in which it had been lying for so many years.

The "erect stone," seen by Bond, is spoken of by Borlase, and many other writers, as *the other half stone*; but Camden and Norden called Doniert's stone by this name, and, only a year or two ago, both terms were used synonymously in the *Journal of the Royal Institution of Cornwall*.

But the truth is evidently this:—Doniert's stone is *the half stone*, and the uninscribed and taller of the memorials is *the other half stone*; and it would be well for the sake of avoiding unnecessary confusion if this distinction were always in future adhered to.\*

The Cornish historian, Carew, visited these stones at the end of the sixteenth or beginning of the seventeenth century, and thus describes them:—

"There are two moor stones, pitched in the ground, very near together, the one of a more broad than thick squareness, about eight feet in height, resembling the ordinary spill of a crosse, and somewhat curiously hewed, with diaper work. The other cometh short of his fellow's length, by the better half, but well near doubleth it in breadth and thickness, and is likewise handsomely carved. They both are mortised in the top, leaving a little edge at the one side, as to accommodate the placing of somewhat else thereupon. In this latter are graved certain letters."

The "diaper work," mentioned by Carew, is common to both stones, and is described by Borlase as "consisting of little asterisks of two inches diameter, disposed in the *quincunx* manner." It is in fact a kind of interlaced ribbon ornament, a design common to stone monuments in other localities. Although having a similar ornamentation, both Doniert's stone and *the other half stone* are evidently parts of quite distinct memorials, and do not represent a single pillar broken in two, as a casual visitor might perhaps infer.†

The height of Doniert's stone, or *the half stone*, is 5 feet 9 inches; breadth towards its base, 2 feet 8 inches, and thickness at the top, 1 foot 9 inches. *The other half stone* is 7 feet 5 inches high; breadth near the top, 1 foot 7 inches, and thickness near its base, 1 foot 5 inches. Both of these stones still have the remains of a mortice on the top of each, in which a cross of some kind may have been inserted.

The correct reading of the inscription on Doniert's stone is as follows:—

DONI  
ERT: RO  
GAUT  
PRO AN  
IMA

or *Doniert: rogavit pro anima*. Although somewhat defaced, the letters are still decipherable, and on re-erecting the stone in an upright position, the precaution was taken to place the inscription towards the north-east to preserve it from the prevailing storms in this bleak district. Borlase imagines that a small cross was placed before the D, as in other early Christian inscriptions, but unfortunately this corner of the stone is broken off. There is, however, just room enough for such a cross. The signification of the two dots after the word Doniert is doubtful; by some, Camden for instance, they have been considered as the remains of another letter, perhaps an E. But the words taken as a whole may be translated—"Doniert prayed for his soul," or "Doniert besought prayers for his soul." The reason for adopting this unusual form of rogatory prayer is thus summed up by Borlase:—

\* Hals plainly says, "at the pedestal of the stone monument o Doniert, called *the Half Stone*."

† This, for instance, seems to have been the impression of Wilkie Collins.—*Rambles Beyond Railways*, p. 53.

\* This stone is at Camborne, West Cornwall.—E. H. W. D.

"I rather think," says he, "that Doniert desired in his lifetime, that a cross might be erected in the place where he should be interred, in order to put people in mind to pray for his soul. So that this is, in my opinion, a sepulchral monument; and if we take it in this sense, the word *rogavit* is proper, and the whole inscription intelligible and according to the usage of ancient times."

This Doniert is supposed by Camden, and others, to have been the same person as Dungeneth, King of Cornwall, who was accidentally drowned in A.D. 872. Borlase says that the identity "cannot be disputed," but many years since\* Professor Westwood expressed an opinion that Doniert's stone might possibly be as early as the seventh century—an opinion it should be said, grounded on the antique form of the letters, and tending to throw some doubt as to the truth of Camden's supposition.

In conclusion, a few remarks may be made on the fall of Doniert's stone, *temp.* Charles II.; its subsequent restoration to an upright position; and the discovery of an underground chamber in proximity to it.

An account of the circumstances which led to the overthrow of this stone has been preserved by Hals, though not printed by Davies Gilbert in his edition of that historian's work. I shall quote from the early edition, now a very scarce book.

"In the latter end of the reign of King Charles II., I, with some gentlemen, went to view this (at that time thought) *barbarous inscription*, which the tinners of the contiguous country taking notice of, they presently apprehended we went thither in quest of hidden treasure there. Whereupon some of them, wiser than the rest, lay their heads together, and resolved in council to be beforehand with us; and, accordingly, went with pickaxes and shovels, and opened the earth round about the monument to the depth of about six feet, when they discovered a spacious vault, walled about and arched over with stones, having on the sides thereof two stone seats, not unlike those in churches for auricular confession. The sight of all which struck them with consternation or a kind of horror, that they incontinently gave over search, and with the utmost hurry and dread, throwing earth and turf to fill up the pit they made, they departed; having neither of them the courage to enter, or even to inspect into the further circumstances of the place. Which account I had from the mouths of some of the very fellows themselves. Some short while after, the loose earth, by reason of some heavy rains which fell, sunk away into the vault, which occasioning also a sort of *terra-motus* and concussion of the other earth adjoining, the said monument was at length so undermined thereby, that it fell to the ground, where it still remains.

"Would some gentlemen of ability and curiosity be at the charge of again opening and cleansing this underground chapel, or whatever else it may be denominated, it might probably afford matter of pleasing amusement, if not grand speculation, to the learned searchers into matters of antiquity."

In 1849 the Exeter Diocesan Architectural Society undertook to do what Hals had suggested, and cleared out the vault. Mr. Charles Spence, lately deceased, published in the *Transactions* of that Society a valuable paper entitled

\* *Arch. Jour.*, vol. viii. (1851), p. 205.

"*Iter Cornubiense*," in which he details the proceedings of the party who were entrusted with the work. After raising Doniert's stone and placing it in an erect position—a mass of granite no less than two tons and a half in weight—the workmen were directed to dig down by the side of the other monolith. "After reaching a depth of about eight or nine feet, a hole was discovered in the side of the shaft, into which I followed the miners," says Mr. Spence, "and found myself in a cruciform vault, eighteen feet in length from east to west, and sixteen from north to south, the width of the vault being about four feet. The sides were perpendicular and the roof circular, and all smoothed with a tool, and as level as the rough nature of the naked rock would permit. Three-fourths of the place being filled up with loose earth, and no time remaining sufficient to remove it, it was determined that a party of men should be employed under the direction of Mr. Rule, of South Caradon mine, who most kindly undertook the office to dig it out; and the subsequent report of the men has been, that it is nothing but 'old workings'—in other words, ancient mine works." With this opinion it is perhaps difficult to agree, though to what use this subterranean chamber was applied, whether as an ancient oratory, or as a place of sepulture, is equally difficult to determine. The truth of Hals' statement as to the existence of a vault at this spot has, however, been corroborated by these investigations.

I will only add that both Doniert's stone and the other half stone have been engraved in Borlase's *Antiquities of Cornwall*, and in Gough's *Camden*. A copy of the inscription is also given in many old works. A neat sketch may be seen in Norden's "*Speculi Britannie Pars*," *Harl. MSS.* 6252, fol. 85.

E. H. W. DUNKIN.

*Kidbrooke Park Road, Blackheath,  
January 16, 1872.*

## A PLEA FOR A NEW EDITION OF WYCLIFFE'S WORKS.

SOME centuries hence, when, as we may hope, our present little sects in religion, philosophy, and politics will have become things of mere antiquarian interest, only studied by those who are concerned with the phenomena of world-growth, it will seem strange that the men of the nineteenth century, those keen active thinkers and bitter philosophical disputants, notwithstanding their historical ardour and their bitter tendency to hate one another on account of slight divergencies of thought, never had the energy or curiosity to insist upon a complete edition of the works of one of the greatest of their mediæval thinkers.

The poetical rubbish of the seventeenth century finds ready admirers and purchasers. The novels of *Afra Behn* are reprinted, and we are even threatened with a new edition of *Shadwell* and *Etheridge*; and yet of the writings of John Wycliffe, one of the noblest Englishmen that ever lived, many of them still remain locked in manuscript, and those that are printed can only be obtained in costly volumes, far beyond the reach of the ordinary reader. The dull and lifeless manner in which the long-suffering English child is taught history is, we imagine, the cause for this. If human beings had the knowledge of the past put before them in any way suited to the capacity of intelligent beings, it cannot be but that the ordinary man and woman would have some interest in, some fellow feeling with, the great Soul who did at least as much for England and the world as any Englishman that ever lived, except William Shakespeare and

Oliver Cromwell. While watery adaptations of Hume and the compilations of Mrs. Markham rule supreme in the school-room, and wild romances, misnamed histories, are alone devoured by excitement-seeking subscribers to Mudie, we cannot hope that things will become much better; but there are signs, trivial enough at present, that a change is taking place. Some few teachers are getting to know that the history of England as well as that of Palestine is worthy of reverend and earnest study; that Yorkshire, Leicestershire, and even Boetian Lincolnshire have had living men treading their highways and plucking flowers in their meadows, who are worthy of comparison with any man that ever spoke Hebrew or Greek. These ideas are only half realised at present by even the best of us. A man is still thought a dangerous sceptic—one who must necessarily hold loose opinions on the Athanasian creed, and whose views on infant baptism, divorce, and the social contract are shaky—if he presumes to say, that for English boys and girls it is as useful to know the names of the barons who compelled John of Anjou to affix his seal to the great Charter of liberty, as it is to be able to tell over the roll of the dukes of Edom or even the twelve sons of Jacob.

Knowledge of facts proceeds rapidly enough, but ideas grow slowly. In the days of our grandchildren it may be that these opinions now thought so strange will have become common-place notions. It is not fitting, however, that we should be compelled to wait for ever for some of the results which the higher education will certainly bring about in time. It is not well that we should be—

"Turning to daisies gently in the grave,"

before the knowledge which would render us so much fitter for the sphere which we now fill should be given us.

The great crash of the sixteenth century—that frightful ruin out of which for three centuries past we have been engaged with more or less architectonic skill, faithfulness, and capacity in building up new dwellings for our souls—was the result of a thousand intertwining threads of causation. To trace, even in the driest fashion, the remote causes of the Reformation would require an encyclopædia full of pages, and patient labour worthy of the Scholar of Germany. But some of the greater causes, which if they did not originate, at least gave direction and colour to the movement, are within all men's grasp if they had the documents before them.

The real Father of the English Reformation was not the many-wived Henry ap Tudor, not the weak, cold-hearted sycophant Cranmer, but the deep-thinking, hard-hitting rector of Fillingham and Lutterworth. Wycliffe was to us what Luther was to Germany; but he did not live to see his work, and therefore, his writings are buried in the dust of the great libraries, or in the costly quartos of book collectors.

The continental Teutons have done more kindly by their national hero. Luther's works, Latin and German alike, have had careful editorship, and we would ask, not only as religious men and as students of antiquity, but as Englishmen, for very shame whether we with all our wealth and with all the noisy bragging of our insular learning with which we fill magazine, journal, and newspaper, whether it is fitting that we should be behind them? Whether it is reasonable that he alone among the great lights of the modern world—because forsooth he was an Englishman—should be forgotten or come before us in mutilated extracts.

The writer of these lines has no thought of taking upon himself the work of editor. He speaks from his heart, not by way of puff; for, alas! he knows of no undertaking of the kind he desires which the breath of any number of students such as he, were they to blow never so fiercely, could inflate into a "paying concern." But he would suggest that there are many undertakings in this country whereon wealthy men spend their substance that are not paying—horse-racing, gambling, and those matters which are touched upon in the

Εταιρικοί διάλογοι of Lucian,—on all and each of which well-to-do persons invest their money. Is it, then, too much that some little of this may be diverted to the useful object of giving to the world a complete edition of all the writings of one of the noblest of our brethren? We suppose it is, and have little hope for the present; but even the chance of better things has a tendency to make men earnest, who long for them.  
M.

## ARCHAIC ROCK SCULPTURES IN OHIO.

At the archaeological section of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, several diagrams were presented representing rock sculptures in Ohio that are presumed to be ancient and to have some significance. A paper on these curious hieroglyphic inscriptions was also contributed by Colonel Whittlesey, and is thus reported in the *American Naturalist*. The largest of the diagrams exhibited is a tracing made by Dr. J. H. Salisbury, of Cleveland, with the assistance of Mrs. Salisbury, from a mural face of conglomerate, near the famous "Black Hand," in Licking County, Ohio. Once there was a space of ten or twelve feet in height, by fifty or sixty feet in length, covered by these inscriptions. Most of them have been obliterated by the recent white settlers.

In 1861, Dr. Salisbury took copies from a space about eight by fifteen feet, by laying a piece of coarse muslin over them, and tracing such as remain uninjured, life size, on the cloth. In this space there are found to be twenty-three characters, most of which are the arrow-head or bird-track character. These are all cut on the edge of the strata, presenting a face nearly vertical, but a little shelving outward, so as to be sheltered from the weather.

Another copy of the remnants of similar inscriptions was taken by Colonel Whittlesey and Mr. J. B. Comstock, in 1869, from the "Turkey Foot Rock," at the Rapids of the Maumee, near Perrysburg. These are on a block of limestone, and in the course of the twenty-five past years have been nearly destroyed by the hand of man. What is left was taken by a tracing of the size of nature.

On the surface of a quarry of grindstone grit at Independence, Cuyahoga County, Ohio, a large inscribed surface was uncovered in 1854. Mr. B. Wood, Deacon Bicknell, and other citizens of Independence, secured a block about six feet by four, and built it into the north wall of a stone church they were then building. Colonel Whittlesey presented a reduced sketch, one-fourth size of nature, taken by Dr. Salisbury and Dr. J. M. Lewis, in 1869, which was made perfect by the assistance of a photographer. Some of the figures sculptured on this slab are cut an inch to an inch and a half in the rock, and they were covered by soil a foot to eighteen inches in thickness, on which large trees were growing. Like all of the others, they were made by a sharp-pointed tool like a pick, but as yet no such tool has been found among the relics of the mound-builders or of the Indians. The figures are very curious. Among them is something like a trident, or fish-spear, a serpent, a human hand, and a number of track-like figures, which the people call buffalo-tracks, but which Dr. Salisbury regards as a closer representation of a human foot covered by a shoe-pack or moccasin. Another figure somewhat resembles the section of a bell with its clapper.

Near the west line of Belmont County, Ohio, Mr. James W. Ward, then of Cincinnati, now of New York, in 1859 took a sketch of two large isolated sandstone rocks, on which are groups of figures similar to those already noticed. Here are the bird-track characters, the serpent, the moccasin or buffalo-tracks, and some anomalous figures. These are plainly cut, with a pick, into the surface of the rock, which, like the Independence stone, is substantially imperishable. Here we have also the representation of the human foot, and the foot of a bear. Another figure, which appears to be the foot of some animal with four clumpy

toes, Prof. Cope thinks may be the foretrack of a Menopome. One peculiarity of these sculptured human feet is a monstrously enlarged great-toe joint, even greater than is produced by the modern process of shoe-pinching. This has been observed in other ancient carvings of the human foot upon the rocks near St. Louis, Missouri. These feet range in size from seven to fifteen inches in length. Of all these representations, the bear's foot is closest to nature. The bird-track, so-called, presents six varieties, some of which are anatomically correct. The human hand is more perfect than the foot.

Dr. Salisbury finds, on comparison of these symbolical figures with the Oriental sign-writing, or hieroglyphical alphabets, that there are many characters in common. Some 800 years before Christ, the Chinese had a bird-track character in their syllable alphabet. The serpent is a symbol so common among the early nations, and has a significance so various, that very little use can be made of it in the comparison.

These inscriptions differ materially from those made by the modern Red Man. He is unable to read that class of them which appears to be ancient.

Lieut. Whipple has mentioned in the "Government Report of the Pacific Railroad Surveys," an instance of the bird-track character inscribed upon the rocks of Arizona. Prof. Kerr, of North Carolina, states that he has noticed similar characters cut in the rocks of one of the passes of the Black mountains, at the head of the Tennessee river.

These facts indicate wide-spread universality in the use of this style of inscription, and they indicate something higher than the present symbolical or picture-writing of the North American Indians.

### ANCIENT ENGLISH AMUSEMENTS.

A LECTURE on this subject was delivered in the Hull Mechanics' Institute on the 11th inst., by Mr. JOHN SYMONS, M.R.I.A., Vice-president of that institution.

The lecturer thought that the revival of many ancient sports would be highly beneficial when the spread of luxury and dissipation tended to extinguish our boasted national bravery. It was the opinion of old writers that May games, Midsummer Eve rejoicings, and open-air games, which were once indulged in by the English people, were preferable to worse practices within doors. English antiquities had of late become a popular study, and he proceeded to point out how researches had added to the world's store of knowledge. Having referred to the antiquity of the Hebrew nation, the Romish and Puritan churches, etc., Mr. Symons went on to say that the ancient sports of the people could not be studied without acquiring some knowledge of mankind; wisdom might even be extracted from the superstitions of our ancestors.

A Druidical custom in the olden times was that of holding fairs in English churchyards. These were termed "love-feasts," and were so denominated from the churchwardens buying and laying in presents, and also a large quantity of malt, which they brewed into beer and sold out in the church and elsewhere. The profits, as well as those from sundry games, were given to the poor, according to the Christian rule that all festivities should be rendered innocent by alms. Aubrey thus describes a Whitsun ale:—"In every parish was a church house, to which belonged spits, creaks, and other utensils for dressing provisions. The young people were there, too, and had dancing, bowling, shooting at butts, etc., the old people sitting gravely by and looking on."

They also heard of dancing and singing in the churchyards, and of fighting in them at fair times, and on Christmas-days performances of a religious nature took place in our churches. Every theatrical performance was then condemned by the Rabbis. In those so-called "mystery plays" of the Middle

Ages the most sacred personages and beings were personified on the stage, and the plays were of such a character as to confirm the Hebrew people in all they had heard of the blasphemous tendencies of theatrical performances in those days. The first regular dramatic exhibitions consisted of the "mysteries." Those theatres, ornamented with tapestry, were erected in churches, and sometimes in churchyards. In the Corpus Christi plays there were theatres for the several scenes, large and high, placed upon wheels, and drawn to all the eminent parts of the city for the better advantage of the spectators. "The ancient stage," says Strutt, "consisted of three several platforms raised one above another. On the uppermost sat the Supreme, surrounded by His angels; in the second appeared the holy saints, and in the last and lowest mere mortals. On one side of this platform was the resemblance of a pitch dark cavern, from whence issued appearances of fire and flames, and when it was necessary the audience were treated to hideous yellings and noises imitative of the howls and cries of the wretched souls tormented by the restless demons. From this yawning cave the devils themselves constantly ascended to delight and instruct the spectators." The lecturer next touched upon the more improved condition of the theatre, when all these mummeries and mysteries, cavern, platform, and devils were abolished. In the reign of Charles I. the time of acting was three o'clock in the afternoon: subsequently it took place in the night-time, and flags were exhibited by way of announcement. The audience sat and drank wine and beer and smoked tobacco. It was a fashionable thing for some of the fast gallants of the day to sit on stools, paying 1s. for their superior accommodation. This was at that time the highest charge. Pit and gallery were one penny. The mystery plays from the Old and New Testament ceased at the end of the 16th century.

Mr. Symons next spoke of some peculiarities in connection with fairs, and read an amusing description, as given by the poet Gay, of the articles exposed for sale in the public marts in his time; also a selection from the poems of the Rev. H. Rowe, bearing date 1796, and an old tract entitled "Bartholomew Faire, 1641." Mr. Symons quoted from several old authorities respecting hiring, or statute fairs, then called "mops," a remnant of which is still to be traced in many parts of the country. The display of merchandise and the conflux of customers at these principal and almost only emporia of domestic commerce were prodigious, and they were therefore often held on open plains. With reference to sports in connection with these fairs, the lecturer quoted from Grose a description of one called "Mumble of Sparrow," a cruel sport practised at wakes and fairs in the following manner:—"A cock sparrow, whose wings were clipped, was put into the crown of a hat; a man having his arms tied behind him, attempted to bite off the sparrow's head, but was generally obliged to desist by the many pecks and pinches he received from the enraged bird. To "whip the cock" was a piece of sport practised at wakes, horse races, and fairs in Leicestershire. A cock being tied and fastened into a basket, half-a-dozen carters, blindfolded and armed with their cart whips, were placed round it, and after being turned thrice about, began to whip the cock; if anyone struck it so as to make it cry out it became his property. The joke was that instead of whipping the cock they flogged each other heartily.

In the course of the lecture Mr. Symons alluded to the meaning of the word "fool," and described the domestic and theatrical fool, the clown, the Lord Mayor's and trading companies' fool, and the Merry Andrew, and their costumes; also stating what their duties were. About the year 1680 was the last instance of a fool being kept. He said that in the 16th century the fool, or more properly the jester, was a man of some ability; and if his character had been strictly drawn by Shakespeare and other dramatic writers, the entertainments which he afforded consisted in witty retorts and sarcastical reflections. Sometimes, however, these



gentlemen overstepped the appointed limits. This misfortune happened to Archibald Armstrong, jester to Charles I. The wag happened to pass a severe jest upon the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, which so highly offended the prelate, who was very proud, that he procured an order from the King in Council for his discharge. Rushworth Collection, part 2, vol. 1, p. 471, said—"It so happened on the 11th March, 1637, Archibald, the King's fool, said to his Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, as he was going to the Council table, 'Who's fool now? Doth not your Grace hear the news from Striveling about the Liturgy?'" with other words of reflections. He was presently complained of to the Council, which produced the order 'That Archibald Armstrong, the King's fool, for certain scandalous words of a high nature, shall have his coat pulled over his head and be banished the Court,'" and immediately the same was put into execution.

A description of the various festivities which took place at Easter then followed, it being mentioned that the archbishops and bishops used to play with the inferior clergy at handball in some church. Amongst the amusements mentioned were the quintain, an old tournament, which took place on the Thames, and the custom of rolling young couples down Greenwich hill at Easter and Whitsuntide, which was mentioned so far back as 1666; also the amusing ceremony of heaving, practised in several counties on Easter Monday. Several very old proclamations, found in early newspapers were humourously alluded to by the lecturer.

Cock-fighting, Mr. Symons stated, seemed to have been a favourite amusement of the olden time. So far back as 1585 Stubbs inveighed against the amusement, which, in his day, seemed to have been practised on Sunday. Cock-fighting was first practised at Athens, by the Greeks, and was afterwards introduced into England, as a favourite pastime, by the Romans. The game cock was, however, known to exist in this country prior to the arrival of Julius Cæsar. The practice was prohibited by one of the Acts of Oliver Cromwell, of March 1st, 1654, but was continued some time after in the north of England. It had now entirely died out.

Another of the things noticed in the lecture was the old English custom of barring out of schools. The boys used to combine together for the purpose of barring out the school-master, and if they could continue keeping him at bay for the space of three days they were entitled to lay down their own rules and regulations of the school for the future. This took place at Christmas-tide, and created considerable merriment.

Passing by the allusion to Shrove-tide and pancakes, Mr. Symons said—Amongst old English frolics might be counted All Fool's day, when everybody strove to make as many fools as they could by sending them on a "sleeveless errand." Mr. Symons read the following extract from the *Public Advertiser*, April 13th, 1767:—"Humorous Jewish origin of the custom of making fools on the 1st April. This is said to have begun from the mistake of Noah in sending the dove out of the ark before the water had abated, on the first day of the month, among the Hebrews, and which answered to the 1st of April; and to perpetuate their memory of this deliverance it was thought proper, whoever forgot so remarkable a circumstance, to punish them by sending them upon some sleeveless errand, similar to that ineffectual message upon which the bird was sent by the patriarch."

Mr. Symons further remarked that a singular and amusing custom was formerly practised at Clent, in the parish of Hall Owen, county Salop, on the occasion of a fair called St. Kenelm's wake. The custom was termed "crabbing the parson," and was said to have arisen on this wise: Long, long ago, an incumbent of Frankley, to which St. Kenelm was attached, was accustomed, through horrid deep-rutted miry roads, to wend his way to the sequestered depository of the remains of the murdered St. Kenelm, to perform divine service. It was his wont to carry creature comforts with him, which he discussed at a lone farm-house near the scene

of his pastoral duties. On one occasion, whether the pastor's wallet was badly furnished, or his stomach more than unusually keen, tradition sayeth not, but having eaten up his own provisions he was tempted (after he had donned his sacerdotal habit, and in the absence of the good dame) to pry into the secrets of a huge pot, in which was simmering the savoury dinner the lady had provided for her household. Among the rest dumplings formed no inconsiderable portion of the contents. The story ran that our parson poached some of them hissing hot from the cauldron; and hearing the footsteps of his hostess he, with great dexterity, deposited them in the ample sleeves of his surplice. She, however, was conscious of her loss, and closely following the parson to the church, by her presence prevented him from disposing of them. To avoid her accusation he forthwith entered the reading-desk and began to read the service; the clerk beneath reading the responses. Ere long a dumpling slipped out of the parson's sleeve, and fell on sleek John's head. He looked up with astonishment, but took the matter in good part, and proceeded with the service. By-and-by, however, John's pate received another visitation, to which he, with upturned eyes and ready tongue, responded, "Two can play at that, master!" and suiting the action to the word he forthwith began pelting the parson with crab-apples, a store of which he had gathered, intending to take them home to foment the sprained legs of his jaded horse; and so well did the clerk play his part that the clergyman soon decamped, amid the jeers of the old dame and the laughter of the few persons who were in attendance. In commemoration of this event (so sayeth the legend) "crabbing the parson" has been practised on the Wake Sunday, until a very recent period.

Mr. Symons concluded by saying that comparing many of the old sports with several modern English ones he was of opinion that some of the out-door games of ancient times were more cheerful, healthy, and exciting than those coarse enjoyments of the uneducated in the present day. He suggested to the Social Science Reformers to provide popular amusements, as it could not be expected that men would spend their whole time in labour, going home merely to eat and sleep. He should like to see galleries of art thrown open freely, and believed that if wholesome amusement were provided, a better account would be given of the manner and intelligence of the English people.

A vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Symons for his instructive paper.

**DISCOVERY IN SOUTHLEIGH CHURCH.**—Some curious things have turned up during the restoration of Southleigh church, now in progress. On removing the whitewash from the walls, remarkable wall-paintings have come to light. In one place, near the chancel arch, an arabesque work of palm-leaves, with parrots flying among them, is to be seen. In another, a gigantic angel weighs little devils, with long red tails, in a pair of scales. In another, the deadly sins (personified by fat human forms) issue from the flaming mouth of hell. Over the figures are labelled their titles—Envy, Sloth, etc. Under the floor of the old pews in the north aisle a brass has been uncovered. Its date is 1557, and it represents a middle-aged layman, in civic gown.

**LAKE DWELLINGS IN SWITZERLAND.**—The discovery of another lacustrine station near the Richensee, Lucerne, has been made. It is 200 ft. long, and 20 ft. broad. It is partly in the lake, and partly upon the land, abounding in reeds, which was laid bare last year by the fall in the level of the lake. The piles, planted for the most part in rows, and blackened at the top by fire, vary in bulk and solidity. Among the articles that have been collected are bones, teeth, walnut and beech trees, either entire or broken, polished stones, silex, sherds of pottery, etc. The peculiarly favourable position of this station encourages the expectation that many more articles of this description will be discovered.

## DISCOVERY OF ROMAN STONE COFFINS.

A DISCOVERY of very considerable archaeological interest has been made at Icklingham, Suffolk. A few weeks ago a man was trenching the corner of a field adjoining the south side of the high road to Mildenhall, and about half a mile from Lackford-bridge, when he came upon what proved to be the lid of a very massive stone coffin, and his employer, Mr. Hunt, who was near by, came to the man's assistance, and the two, with some considerable difficulty, pushed partly on one side the heavy slab of stone, and found the coffin to contain a considerable quantity of mould, in which were imbedded the bones of a slight skeleton, but no sign of expected treasure. The sex of the occupant of this coffin is, we believe, not yet determined. Further operations were stopped, and severe weather setting in, matters so remained until the 11th ult., when Mr. Henry Prigg, jun., of Bury St. Edmund's, attended with a staff of labourers to remove the coffin and examine the ground in its immediate vicinity. In the course of the necessary adjacent excavations, and but a few inches from the left side of the first coffin, which lay neatly east and west, was found a second, of similar materials and construction, but somewhat larger and better formed. And again, at a short distance on the other side of coffin No. 1, and beneath a quantity of fragments of tiles, etc., was a third one, composed of lead, 6 ft. long by 18 in. in breadth. This had originally been enclosed in a strong chest of wood, of which nothing but the nails remained. The lead coffin, though of very stout material and well made, upon its decay, had yielded to the pressure of the superimposed materials, and was somewhat disturbed. It contained the skeleton of an adult female. At the feet of the two stone coffins another interment was met with without coffin, and with the remains of the skull lying to the south by south-west. This grave had been protected by a pavement of Roman tiles, placed at the same level as the lids of the stone coffins. Another interment, it is believed, was disturbed to make room for the placing of one of the above, portions of bones being found in the soil immediately to the west of No. 1. Both coffins, the forms of which are very similar to the coffin from Stow Heath, now in the museum of the Suffolk Institute, were cut from solid blocks of a calcareous stone resembling Barnack, and had their massive lids secured by cement. The dimensions of the largest were as follows:—Length, 6 ft. 8 in.; breadth at shoulders, 2 ft. 7½ in.; at foot, 1 ft. 6 in.; height at head, 1 ft. 7½ in.; at foot, 1 ft. 2 in.; thickness of sides, 3½ in. The covering stone was twice the thickness of the sides. This coffin was opened, and found to contain the nearly perfect skeleton of a man of advanced years, of sturdy build. Comparatively little earth had in this instance penetrated the coffin, and the stratum of lime in which the bones were partially imbedded tended greatly to their preservation. No relic of any description was found in this, or like other coffins, to furnish an indication of the date of burial, but it is considered almost certain that it may be reckoned from the period of the Roman occupation of this island, and that probably fifteen hundred years have passed since mourning friends pronounced the final *Vale* over the ashes of their departed kinsfolk. Full details of this discovery, together with the results of further excavations, which will no doubt be undertaken, will be published in an early number of the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute*. The sarcophagi have been safely removed and deposited in the grounds of the rectory.

THE ROYAL ARCHITECTURAL MUSEUM.—Through the generosity of J. L. Parsons, Esq., of Lewes, the museum has become the possessor of a cast of the black marble tomb of Gundreda, wife of William de Warrenne, and daughter of William the Conqueror, originally placed over her remains in the Chapter House of Lewes Priory.

## PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES.

[Secretaries of Archaeological and Antiquarian Societies throughout the Kingdom will confer a favour by forwarding to the Editor of this Journal all Notices and Reports of Meetings, and also their Periodical Publications.]

[LONDON.]

## SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.

A MEETING was held on Thursday, January 11, when W. FRANKS, Esq., V.P., was in the chair.

This being the evening appointed for the ballot, no papers were read.

The following gentlemen were declared to be duly elected Fellows of the Society:—Messrs. E. Shearme, G. C. Yates, C. Shirley Brooks, Dr. W. S. Saunders, General Meredith Read, Rev. W. Lofie, Rev. R. Kirwan, and H. Owen. Also, as Honorary Fellow, Augusto Pereira e Anhaia Gallego Soromenho.

## SOCIETY FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF THE FINE ARTS.

THE fourteenth session of the above Society commenced on Thursday, 18th inst., with a *Conversazione* at the Gallery of British Artists, Suffolk Street, most numerous and fashionably attended, at which we noticed many well-known artists, distinguished foreigners, and the city magnates, etc. Besides the pictures, Mr. Alfred Gilbert supplied a good bill of fare in an excellent selection of music from the compositions of Mozart, Rossini, Mendelssohn, Handel, Moscheles, Donizetti, Hullah, Chopin, and Touis, well given by Madame O. Williams, Signor Aldeman, Signor Pezze, Messrs. Holmes, and Percy Rivers, under the able superintendence of Mr. Alfred Gilbert, who presided at the piano-forte.

The Lecture Session commences auspiciously. An attractive series of Art lectures is announced by the following able men:—Dr. Zerffi, Wyke Bayliss, F.S.A., George Browning, Alfred Gilbert, R.A. Mus., J. A. Houston, R.S.A., Thomas Gilks, "On Bewick, and the Revival of Wood-Engraving in England," G. A. Sala, T. R. Temple, M.A., Cave Thomas, Henry Tidey, Hyde Clarke, D.C.L., W. Spottiswoode, M.A., Sir Charles Young, etc.

[PROVINCIAL.]

## YORKSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND TOPOGRAPHICAL ASSOCIATION.

THE seventh annual meeting of this Association was held on the 10th instant, in the Wellington Rooms, Queen Street, Huddersfield, Mr. THOMAS BROOKE, F.S.A., of Armitage Bridge, one of the vice-presidents, in the chair.

The following report of the Council for the year 1871, was unanimously adopted:—A large increase in the number of members sufficiently attests the satisfactory progress of the Association during the past year, and the receipt of 58l. 10s. 9d. from new members, for back numbers of the *Yorkshire Archaeological and Topographical Journal*, points to that publication as the true source to which the progress made is to be ascribed. The members of the Council have during the year devoted their attention mainly to the *Journal*, and it is with great satisfaction that they acknowledge their obligations to the able writers of the various papers. The excursion to Leeds, Adel, and the great Cistercian Abbey at Kirkstall, on the 30th August, proved a success for reasons which have already been explained in the reprinted newspaper account afterwards sent to its members. It is, however, a matter of regret that so few of the members of the Local Literary and Philosophical Society at Leeds followed the

example of our associate the mayor, who by his presence and help did everything in his power to make the meeting successful. A few members have been removed from the list by death and other causes, but notwithstanding such losses the numbers now stand as follows:—Life members, 59, annual members 283, honorary members, 7. There are also now twelve corresponding societies, to whom the *Journal* is sent in exchange for their respective publications. A copy is also regularly forwarded to the Society of Antiquaries of London, and the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland. The investment fund arising from life members' compositions amounts to 325*l.* 10*s.*, which will be forthwith invested in suitable securities.

The library has received many additions, a full list of which will be published at the close of Vol. II. of the *Journal*; and the Council has specially to acknowledge the liberality of Mrs. Hughes, a member of the Association, in presenting upwards of 60 volumes, selected by her from her late husband's library. Yorkshire books and pamphlets are specially desired, and authors and publishers of any such would become active helpers of the Association if they would kindly send copies to which the attention of all members visiting the library will thus be attracted. Some parcels of old deeds have also been received, and our esteemed vice-president, Mr. Edward Akroyd, M.P., F.S.A., has contributed 25*l.* as a first instalment of the 50*l.* some time ago promised by him towards the cost of establishing a system of registering the historical information contained in old deeds. An appeal will therefore shortly be made to the possessors of such documents to forward them, either as presents or on loan, that concise abstracts may be made of their contents for future reference.

The accounts for the year, duly audited, are appended, and it is satisfactory to remark that the receipts have now become sufficient to discharge the printing account for two parts of the *Journal* within the twelve months, and after paying all expenses leave a balance of 36*l.* to be carried forward, in addition to the value of the stock of parts remaining on hand. The propriety of issuing parts with greater frequency has not escaped the attention of the Council; but for the present, at any rate, it is thought to be wiser rather to increase the size of each part than the number of the parts, for each additional part issued involves, besides its special cost of delivery, a considerable increase of editorial labour.

A list of buildings in England having now or having formerly had mural or other painted decorations, of dates previous to the middle of the 16th century, is being compiled by the Science and Art Department of the Committee of Council on Education, South Kensington; and all information respecting any such buildings which any members can furnish will be duly acknowledged if forwarded to the Hon. Secretary, at his residence, Castle Hill, Rastrick, near Brighouse. The only Yorkshire buildings already noticed are Fishlake church, Wakefield church, York Minster, Pickering church, Aysgarth church, Beverley Minster, Conisburgh church, and Easby church. In making communications on this subject, members should, where possible, state whether the decorations are existing or destroyed, their general character and subject, and also whether any and what tracings or drawings of them are known to have been made, and in what publications any account of them has appeared. The Council has still to urge members to use their best efforts to extend the influence and usefulness of the Association by inducing their friends to join and become either annual or life members.

The officers who retire are eligible for re-election. The above report and the accounts having been read, the officers for the past year were re-elected, and Hon. Charles Howard, M.P., was elected an additional vice-president.

During the meeting an interesting and perfect specimen of an early pitcher, found under many feet of clay at Heckmond-wike, in excavating for the foundations of a brewery there, was exhibited by Mr. T. B. Oldfield, of Hill-top House.

It is of a pale red colour, wheel-worked but very rude, and almost identical in form with a Saxon pitcher figured on p. 31 of the first volume of Miss Meteyards' "Life of Wedgewood." So perfect a specimen is rarely seen.

#### [FOREIGN.]

#### ASIATIC SOCIETY OF BENGAL.

##### STRANGE SUPERSTITION.

At the last meeting of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, a letter was read from the Assistant-Commissioner, Pachumba, describing two ancient copper axes which he has presented to the Society.

The narrative of their discovery is very curious. It appears that they had been found by a villager just below the surface of a hillock, round which he was cultivating land. But where this hillock is, he steadily refuses, in spite of an offer of twenty rupees, to tell to any one, lest the demon of the spot should revenge himself upon him. He has, he declares, already suffered at his hands. The night after he found the things, he had a dream, in which a gnome of terrible aspect appeared before him. He was no ordinary-looking spirit, but of prodigious proportions, his skin being red and his clothes black, whilst a profusion of hair hung down his back from his head to his heels, each hair being as thick as a man's wrist. Having dismounted from a tiger which had carried him to the villager's door, he entered the hut, and, pointing to the copper pieces, informed the trembling man that they were his (the gnome's) property. The man at once expressed his willingness to give them up, but the gnome would have none of them. He wanted in exchange four hairs off the villager's right knee, and in return offered to relinquish all claim to the treasure which, he said, lay buried under the other hillocks in that locality. But the much-coveted hairs the man would not part with at any price. So the gnome mounted his tiger, and trotted off in high dudgeon. When the day broke the villager proceeded to do a little ploughing before resuming his excavations at the hillock; but as he passed that spot one of his bullocks dropped down stone dead, and within a few days the remaining two bullocks which he possessed died also. Upon this he deserted that place, and took up his residence in the village where he now lives. This, he says, happened three years ago, and till last year he concealed the pieces, which he believed to be gold; but thinking he might then realise something by them, he carried them off in great secrecy to a European official, to whom he imparted the information of where he had found them. But this little indiscretion brought fresh troubles on him; for when he returned home his little girl sickened and died. For these valid reasons he refuses to point out the hillock where the gnome's treasures lie hidden.

#### THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ARCHÆOLOGISTS AND ANTHROPOLOGISTS AT BOLOGNA.

THIS Congress has just held its fifth session at Bologna. The presidents chosen were:—Counts Conestabile and Scarabelli (Italy), De Quatrefages (France), Carl Vogt (Switzerland), Steenstrup (Denmark), and Dupont (Belgium). The general presidency devolved on Count Gozzadini. Two hundred members attended the Congress.

The excursions and explorations were most satisfactory. The remains of the bronze epoch at Montale, near Modena, were first visited. The company then passed on to Mazzabotto to explore a vast Etruscan cemetery, near which a town has been discovered whose name is unknown. Thence they proceeded to Certosa (the present cemetery of Bologna) to visit the Etruscan cemetery of the ancient Felsina (the Etruscan Bologna), which is buried under 16 feet of earth. Last of all they went to Ravenna, to see the mosaics of the

palace of Theodoric, which are 9 feet below the present level of the soil.

On the motion of the Danish *savans*, it was resolved that the French language should be exclusively employed at the future meetings of the Congress.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

[The Editor will be glad to receive Correspondence on Archaeological matters, and information of discoveries of antiquities, accompanied with drawings of objects, when of sufficient interest, for illustration.]

### "STONEHENGE."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ANTIQUARY.

SIR.—In *The Antiquary*, Vol. I., page 143, Mr. E. H. W. Dunkin, has quoted Ray's notice of Stonehenge, in 1662, from which it appears that the number of stones, small and great, was *ninety-four*. Assuming Ray's counting to be correct, the loss has not been exceptionally great, for I find them—upon counting the number laid down in a map recently executed, and given in Fergusson's magnificent work on "Rude Stone Monuments," page 92, just published—to be *eighty-seven*, being seven fewer than existed two hundred and ten years since.

JOHN JEREMIAH.

43, Red Lion Street, E.C.  
January 12th, 1872.

### "BELL BRASSES."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ANTIQUARY.

SIR.—In your last issue I asked for an explanation of the term "bell-brasses," which I had found in the churchwardens' accounts of Ash-next-Sandwich. The term at the time puzzled me, and by Mr. Planché italicising the word *brasses*, I was led to infer, perhaps too hastily, that the expression "bell brasses" was an unusual one. I have since ascertained that it is a technical term for the pieces of metal fastened to the frame of a bell, in which the pivots or gudgeons of the stock work to and fro. My surmises that some monumental brasses had been melted down to help to make new bells are therefore happily unfounded.

E. H. W. DUNKIN.

Kidbrooke Park Road, Blackheath.  
January 17th, 1872.

### THE DERIVATION OF "MAIDEN" AS A PLACE-NAME.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ANTIQUARY.

SIR.—There is a peculiar fascination in etymology which, if allowed, consciously or otherwise, full play, will inevitably cause us to lose sight of that part of the science which makes us feel chary in accepting as sufficient, doubtful derivations. This is no better illustrated than in the case of "Maiden" as a place-name. A. H.'s statement "that Maiden is incontestably corrupted from the Celtic '*magh-dune*'—fort on the field or plain," seems very probable, but I, for one, at present feel some hesitation in accepting it as "incontestably" true of *all* the localities he mentions. In the first place, I would like to know what were the *earliest* forms of them; whether, for instance, Maiden Newton, Dorset, Maiden Bower, Dunstable and Durham, were spelt the same as they are now in the *oldest* known records. If they are, it will then follow, I think, that the Gaelic form of the Celtic prevailed in Britain to a far greater extent than is generally believed; although I am well aware of the Gaelic being a purer form of the Celtic than the Kymric. I do not wish to involve in the discussion of this question that,

far wider and more mystifying one, of the origin of the Kymric and Gaelic dialects.

If "A. H." had applied his derivation solely to the "Maidens" in the north, it would not be considered doubtful, especially when it is known that the present Gaelic of Scotland is a corrupted Irish, and that there were constant communications between parts of Durham, Scotland, and Ireland. Besides this, there is a singular and almost similar corruption of a place-name in Ireland, to that suggested, with regard to "Maiden," by your esteemed correspondent. *Madame* in the parish of Kimaloda, Cork, is from *Maghdamh*,—the plain of the oxen.\* Wherever there are topographical or archaeological features surrounding or situated near to a place with "Maiden" in its name, they should, to a very great degree, determine which derivation is the most probable one. It is this which leads me to doubt the applicability of the derivation given by "A. H." to *all* the "maiden" names, without a single exception. Some of these places were as likely named for being impregnable; as, for instance, that of Metz, which, before its falling into the hands of the Prussian army, was called, figuratively, the *maiden* fortress. The origin of the name of Edinburgh Castle, *Castrum Puellarum*, as given by Oldbuck, in Sir Walter Scott's *Antiquary*, that it was called the Maiden Castle, because it resisted every attack, will serve as another illustration in support of my view.

In conclusion, it appears evident that places with the word "maiden" in their names, may be, and *most probably* are, derived from various sources, some from topographical or archaeological peculiarities, others from a figure of speech suggested by the physical features of the respective buildings or places named. Much can be done in elucidating this subject, by looking up the oldest forms of each of the names, and comparing the features of the places with the meanings of the several derivations that suggest themselves.

KYMRV.

### PRE-HISTORIC ANTIQUITIES OF NORTH AMERICA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ANTIQUARY.

SIR.—It is affirmed on the very best authority that no remains have yet been found in the ancient mounds of North America, that fully identify their constructors with any of the present aboriginal races of the United States; it being concluded by the local antiquaries, that the race or races of mound-builders have "gone South."

We learn from Mr. Hyde Clarke that it is to Asia, not to Europe, that we must look for the real congeners of these lost mound-builders. Most fully do I endorse his expressed opinion, that there has always been a communication between Asia and America since man first appeared on earth.

The language of the Esquimaux is found to be allied to the Turanian, a vast family of languages found in N. Europe, and scattered all over Asia: *ex. gr.*, to name but a few, the Finnish and Lap, the Turkish and Tartar; the normal extension, however, has been from Asia, westwards to Europe, and eastwards to America; but the Tchuktchi, is a dialect, distinctly Esquimaux, that has found its way back again from America to Asia.

From this unquestioned connexion, however, we must not too readily infer the transmission of formed habits from one continent to the other, on the score of certain resemblances. I hold that diverse races, actuated by similar motives, may spontaneously develop similar habits, at different eras, and in widely separated localities.

Take these mound-builders, for instance; separate races may originate the habit and forget it. Take the old picture-writing of Mexico; we must not conclude it has originated from the hieroglyphics of Egypt, for it may be a distinct and independent invention, hit upon at any time, in the develop-

\* Joyce's "Irish Names of Places," 3rd edition, p. 43.



ment of language. Take the mummies of South America ; we need not suppose the habit of embalming or preserving the dead must have travelled from Egypt to the Guanches of Teneriffe, and from thence to the Quichuaus of Peru ; for the *desire* exists in man, and only awaits favourable circumstances of time and opportunity to bring it into operation.

January 6th, 1872.

A. H.

### THE PREFIX "KIL."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ANTIQUARY.

SIR,—Mr. A. Hall and the Hon. Canon Samuel Lysons have both admitted that "Kil," "Cill," etc., are not *Highland-Scottish*. All I aimed at in my previous communication was to disprove the assertion made by Mr. A. Hall, and not to plunge so innocent a trifle in philological mysticism. The Irish "Ceall" and all the other forms of that word, as found in Ireland, are, as Mr. Joyce states, "all originally Latin." As to the words corresponding to "Kil" in the other languages cited by the Hon. Canon Samuel Lysons, my position is neither strengthened nor weakened so far as regards the question, pure and simple, raised by me. Were I discussing the cognates of "Kil," "Cill," "Cella," etc., it might tend to very interesting results, but at present I feel repaid for my trouble in finding that I am not alone in denying that "Kil" is *Highland-Scottish*. The history of the Scoti is here irrelevant.

London, E.C., January 13.

KYMR.

### DISCOVERY OF ANCIENT REMAINS IN THE ISLE OF THANET.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ANTIQUARY.

SIR,—Seeing no notice in your journal of the above discovery, I send you the following particulars from *The Building News* of November 24, 1871:—"Whilst workmen were engaged on the excavations for the stables of the Granville Hotel, they fell in with a portion of a Roman camp. Immense quantities of human remains were found, also an extensive pavement formed of boulders of an enormous size, such as are not found at present on the south-east coast. Some fragments of pottery, both Etruscan and Roman, are exceedingly beautiful in form and workmanship. One jar is quite perfect, and is two feet in height. Boars must have been plentiful, as tusks were found by the dozen. Amongst the metal remains were two very fine nails with large conical heads, and an iron knife.

January 16, 1872.

R. E. W.

### THE "BUSY-BODY."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ANTIQUARY.

SIR,—I beg to thank Mr. John Jeremiah for his courteous reply to mine respecting an "Old Play Bill;" at the same time my query was not so much to ascertain the author of "Busy-Body," as to glean whether it was acted in the year mentioned, namely, 1758? If Mr. J. J., or any of your readers can oblige with the information I shall be glad.

HENRY CHRISTIE.

45, Arlington Square, N.

### QUERIES.

I have an old engraving in my possession published by W. Dickey, Bow Churchyard. It is called "The Bloody Sentence of the Jews against Jesus Christ." The figures are very expressive and life-like. At the bottom these words are printed:—"This was found underground at Vienna, cut in stone in Latin." I wish to ascertain the value or scarcity of this print, and when W. Dickey lived at the above premises.

111, Union Road, S.E.

R. E. WAY.

I shall be glad to learn through "*The Antiquary*" the real meaning of the word "Tylekil or Tilekil," as being applied to a farm? I have met with the term very frequently in local histories.

### ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

HENRY S. GILL.—"Saxon Monuments" will appear in our next.

JOHN JEREMIAH.—Contributions omitted for want of space.

W. WINTERS.—"Tricks of Early Tradesmen of London in the Reigns of Edward I., II., and III." postponed.

JOHN T. DEXTER.—"American Prehistoric Antiquities" in our next Number.

J. PERRY.—"Folk Lore" deferred.

THOMAS SAMPSON.—In our next.

### REVIEW.

*A Description of the Roman Tessellated Pavement found in Bucklersbury; with Observations on Analogous Discoveries.* By JOHN EDWARD PRICE. 1870. (Westminster: printed by Nichols & Sons.)

THIS is a very valuable contribution toward the history of Roman London. Its publication has been undertaken with a view to preserve a contemporary account of the circumstances connected with the discovery of the beautiful tessellated pavement in Bucklersbury on the 10th of May, 1869. This piece of Roman work is now in the custody of the Corporation, having been removed to the Guildhall for preservation, and placed under the care of the Library Committee mainly through the efforts of Dr. W. Sedgwick Saunders.

In drawing up the present monograph, Mr. Price has not confined himself to a mere description of the Bucklersbury pavement, but has gathered together a great deal of scattered information on other Roman tessellated floors that have been brought to light in various parts of the City. We now propose to take a rapid glance at some of these pavements.

Soon after the Great Fire, in 1666, several tessellated pavements were discovered, either on clearing the ruins or in digging the foundations for new houses. One of these was found in Bush Lane, Cannon Street, "pretty deep in the earth," and it may be mentioned that during the construction of the Cannon Street railway station, and on other occasions, vestiges of Roman buildings have come to light on the same spot.

In 1707 a pavement was found at the corner of Camomile Street, near the site of Bishopsgate, and only 3½ feet from the old City wall. It had been placed over a cemetery of earlier date, for beneath the concrete was a stratum of clay, in which were several urns of various forms and sizes, with ashes, burnt bones, patera, etc. Before the end of the last century kindred discoveries had also been made in Lombard Street, Birch Lane, and Sherbourn Lane, as well as in other parts of the City.

In 1803, and again in 1805, two very fine pavements of tessellated work were exposed to view, the first in Leadenhall Street, and the second under the north-west corner of the Bank of England. That in Leadenhall Street was below the carriage way, close to the late East India House, and lay at a depth of 9 feet 6 inches below the surface. A portion of it had been previously cut through and destroyed, and on attempting to remove the part that was still intact, this also was broken into pieces. "The central device," says Mr. Price, "comprised a highly finished figure of Bacchus reclining either on a tiger or on a panther, his thyrsus erect in his left hand, and a small two-handled Roman drinking-cup pendent from his right; round his brow was a garland of vine leaves; his mantle, purple and green, falling from his right shoulder, was thrown carelessly round his waist, and on his foot was the *cothurnus* or high boot laced in front." The other

part of the floor was also of an elegant design. The pavement at the Bank of England was lying at a greater depth, and the pattern is much inferior to the above. In the centre is "a foliated cross, the limbs of which terminate in flowers and tendrils, surrounded by a square guilloche pattern with flowers in the angles. The white ground is studded with dark stones."

From this time to 1854, various tessellated pavements are recorded to have been found in different parts of the City. In the above year one was recovered from beneath the old Excise Office in Broad Street. Again in 1859, a very interesting fragment came to light in Cullum Street, near Fenchurch Street, at a depth of 11 feet 6 inches. "Upon a white ground," says Mr. Price, "appears a bird, possibly a peacock, though owing to portions being lost, the tail feathers are not very clearly defined. The *tessellæ* composing the breast and neck of the bird are of a bright azure glass, with a slight admixture of green of the same material; the wing is of red, white, and yellow *tessellæ*. On the same ground is a vase in red, white, and yellow, with a centre of green glass. In the perfect state of the pavement another peacock probably occupied the other side of the vase. Around the subject is a guilloche border of white, yellow, and red; the white being heightened in effect by numerous bands of black coarse *tessellæ*." In 1867, a pavement was discovered at the corner of St. Mildred's Court, not far from the very beautiful piece of tessellated work subsequently found in Bucklersbury, to which it had a resemblance, both in design and treatment.

The latter was buried at a depth of 19 feet below the level of the roadway, and at a very short distance from the course of the Wallbrook. In form, it is a parallelogram with a semi-circular addition at its northern end, having a total length of about 20 feet. Inclosing the apartment were walls of brick and tile, with blocks of chalk and ragstone, and the tessellated floor itself was built over the flues of an hypocaust. For boldness of design, harmony of colour, and the effect of gradations of light and shade in the tints selected, Mr. Price considers the Bucklersbury pavement to be unsurpassed by any work of the same kind, ever found in the City, excepting, perhaps, that from Leadenhall Street. We shall best give an idea of this rare specimen of tessellated pavement by quoting Mr. Price's own words.

"The end south of the projecting piers has a bordering in large *tessellæ* of red brick, with occasionally some of a yellow tint; this at the south end is 3 feet wide, and on either side 2 feet 7 inches. It incloses a panel 8 feet square, formed by an elegant guilloche border in five rows of small cubes of coloured *tessellæ*. This surrounds the two interlacing squares. One square is worked in colours, the other tastefully relieving it with the soft tints produced by *tessellæ* of white or bluish-grey and black. In the centre is a simple floral ornament of four heart-shaped petals; the upper portion worked in colours of grey and yellow; the lower half, defined by a line across the centre of each leaf, is continued downwards in small *tessellæ* of red brick, presenting the appearance of a cross. Around the central figure are two rows of black *tessellæ*, and a third one, surrounding it, is in an undulating or serpentine form: the space produced by the bends is filled by stones of grey and blue. Around this is a double circle containing twenty-six divisions, each parted by a line of black, representing diagonal forms. These are in blue, grey, red, and yellow stones. Surrounding this is the braided guilloche, in the same tints as the external border. In the four angles of the interlacing squares are fanciful objects, each two being similar in a diagonal direction. Above the panelling, and between the projecting piers, are the most beautiful features of the design, viz., a spirited scroll of flowers and leaves, on either side a centre ornament of flowers, apparently lilies. . . . Above this are two rows of black *tessellæ*, making a dividing line between it and a guilloche ornament which runs above it and entirely round the apse. This elegant border incloses

a beautiful scale or leaf-like pattern, formed in parti-coloured sun-like rays, extending from what would be the centre of the circle. This is in twenty-six divisions, every two of which are taken up in the elaboration of the figure. This thatch-like pattern is worked in small *tessellæ* of red and yellow brick, alternating with others in blue and black."

It may be added that other antiquities were met with during the progress of the same excavations that brought the pavement to view. These ancient objects have all been carefully described by Mr. Price. Much useful information is also given respecting the London Stone, and the course of the Wallbrook, which is now very difficult to trace. The large chromo-lithograph, serving as a frontispiece, greatly enhances the value of the literary part of the volume.

## RESTORATIONS OF ANCIENT EDIFICES.

REPAIRS AT LAMBETH PALACE.—Certain structural repairs have been some time in progress under the superintendence of Ewan Christian, Esq., the architect to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. Some of the most interesting of the earlier portions of the Lollard's Tower, the Gate Tower, and the façade of the intervening buildings—have been carefully examined. The general facing is of Kentish rag, and where any unsoundness was detected, it has been taken down and rebuilt, with such care, however, in preserving the original aspect, that when rebuilt the exact character of the old work should be reproduced: The window dressings have been treated with the same care. A great portion of the parapets of the towers and some of the chimney stacks have been taken down and rebuilt. The upper storey of the Lollard's Tower still retains its ancient lining of elm, with the iron rings, eight in number, fixed in the wall, to which prisoners were secured; and a shaft, which tradition says was used as an obliette, passes down to a communication still open with the Thames, and through which the water flows through an opening under the new Embankment, to supply a pond in the gardens. On the one-pair floor of the Gate Tower a portion of the original hangings remains, and the relics of a dado formed of plaited rushes; these rooms were once the apartments of the celebrated Cardinal Morton.

ANCIENT MAP OF NORTH AMERICA.—At a meeting of the American Geographical Society, held at New York on the 28th of November, there was exhibited a large photographic copy of a map of part of America, described as made by Verazzano, in 1529. Verazzano is supposed to have preceded Hudson in the discovery of the bay and harbour of New York, and to have been the first navigator who explored the coast of what is now the United States, landing in several places between North Carolina and New Brunswick, a full account of which voyage is contained in a letter written by him to Francis I., which is now in a public library in Florence; but the genuineness of this letter has been questioned, as well as the fact of such a voyage. A map or planisphere of the world, made by Verazzano's brother five years after this alleged voyage—that is, in 1529—was discovered a few years ago in the College of the Propaganda, at Rome, containing the North American coast, and indicating the discoveries of Verazzano. The society has obtained a photographic copy of this map. It shows the outlines of the North American Continent, almost as in modern maps. Verazzano was of obscure birth, but became known as an adventurous sailor, and made several voyages to the East Indies. He subsequently became a corsair, or buccaneer, and captured two of the ships of Cortez, and also a Portuguese ship laden with gold. He was finally taken prisoner in a naval battle, by the Biscayens, and hanged at Porta la Pico, as some historians relate, while others say he was taken to Madrid and imprisoned. The New York meeting was addressed by the Hon. Henry C. Murphy, who is a believer in the genuineness of the letter and the map.

## NOTICES OF SALES.

## RARE PORCELAIN.

The valuable collection of porcelain, comprising specimens of old Sèvres, Dresden, Berlin, Vienna, Oriental, Chelsea, Bow, Bristol, Derby, Fulham, Plymouth, and Worcester, of Mr. W. T. H. Strange-Muir, was disposed of on the 8th instant by Messrs. Christie, Manson and Woods, in King Street, St. James's, by order of the trustee. The following were the more important items:—

*Oriental*.—29. A pair of birds of dark blue and white enamel—29 guineas (Toms).

30. A pair of handsome screens, of ivory, carved with landscapes and figures, coloured and gilt, enriched with jade, &c., on carved rosewood stands—30 guineas (Hewitt).

*Dresden*.—51-2. A handsome dessert service, painted with flowers, with open work white and gold borders, consisting of a three-tier stand surmounted by a figure and twenty-eight other pieces; and a candelabrum *en suite*, painted and encrusted with flowers, with branches for six lights, and three dishes, on triangular foot, with figures of children—35 guineas (Toms).

*Old Sèvres*.—80 and 83. A pair of small turquoise vases and covers, painted with roses in medallions, and mounted with ormolu, and a pair of turquoise cups and saucers, painted with flowers in medallions—34 guineas (Wareham).

85. A pair of small vases, turquoise and gold, partly fluted and painted with festoons of flowers in colours on white ground, and mounted with ormolu feet—40 guineas (Wareham).

*Vienna*.—89-91. A plate, with purple border, richly gilt, painted with a Bacchanalian subject; another, painted with Venus at the bath, in deep blue and richly-gilt border; and a third, with the toilet of Venus, in similar border—45 guineas (Lewis).

*Chelsea*.—120. A square-shaped vase, deep blue ground, richly gilt, painted with two medallions of pastoral figures, and with white and gold scroll handles—48 guineas (Lichfield).

*Worcester*.—143. A beautiful dessert service, with deep blue and gold borders, and bands of turquoise marbled with gold, painted with flowers, consisting of an oval centre dish on foot, forty-eight other pieces, and four Derby ice-pails and covers to match—87 guineas (Wertheimer).

## ANTIQUARY OBJECTS.

A valuable assemblage of antique objects, principally from Italy, and other objects of art and interest, was disposed of, on the 9th and 10th instant, by Messrs. Foster, in Pall Mall. The following merit notice:—

Lot 50. A large ebony cabinet, beautifully inlaid in arabesques of Cupids and scroll-work on ivory, with shelves, folding-doors, and armoire under—27½ guineas.

140. A fine Italian ebony and ivory secretaire—the upper portion forming a cabinet with numerous drawers, richly inlaid with engraved ivory plaques, with reliefs of pietra dura—35½ guineas.

150 and 165. A cabinet inlaid with marqueterie, forming a secretaire, with plate glass doors over, enclosing numerous drawers and two noble carved oak stands, supported by figures of climbing negro boys—30 guineas (B. Benjamin).

327 and 453. A large engraved Milanese *cap-à-pie* suit of armour, and a similar suit, richly engraved—30 guineas.

336-40. Five pairs of Venetian oak hall chairs, with carved lion backs and masks—20 guineas.

348 and 349. A pair of Raphaëlle vases and covers, painted in mythological subjects, wreaths of flowers, and scroll handles; and another pair, painted in subjects of sea nymphs—25 guineas.

353-5. Three pairs of Italian high backed ebony and ivory library chairs—21 guineas.

358-61. A chased and engraved brass ewer and dish, of fine form, and a fine old cloisonné enamel incense burner and cover—25 guineas.

412. An ebony and ivory cabinet, with doors and numerous internal compartments, richly inlaid with medallions and plaques of mythological subjects, arabesques, &c.—58 guineas.

440. A pair of pietra dura busts of negroes, formed of lapis lazuli, Sienna, Brescia, verd antique, and other rare marbles—50 guineas.

445-9. A beautiful Vienna china service, comprising 136 pieces, six shaped *sceaux à la glace*, four ice pails, six trellis baskets, and two pairs of *sceaux, en suite*—70 guineas.

489. A massive carved oak mirror frame and glass, with groups of Cupids in bold relief—25 guineas.

## MODERN PICTURES.

A valuable collection of modern pictures, including some fine works of the modern Belgian school, was disposed of on Saturday the 13th instant, by Messrs. Christie, Manson, and Woods, in King Street, St. James's. Among the more remarkable were the following:—

Lot 35. Turner. "The Animals going into the Ark-circle." It was put up at one guinea, and speedily advanced to 20 guineas, then the biddings rose 5*l.* at once, until they reached 200*l.*, when the last bidder, Mr. Cox, of Pall Mall, gave way, and it was finally knocked down to Mr. E. F. White, at the price of 201*l.*

42. W. Muller. A view of Scotland, with a cascade; presented by the artist to the late owner—80 guineas (Cox).

50. F. Wheatley, R.A. "The Virtuous Girl's and the Wanton's Career;" a set of 10 pictures—60 guineas (Grindlay).

67. R. W. Buss. "Christmas in the Reign of Elizabeth;" a grand gallery picture—80 guineas (Cox).

82 and 88. E. Quinault and Verboeckhoven. A landscape, with sheep and figures; and a woody landscape, with cattle and figures—72 guineas (Mendoza).

92. E. Verboeckhoven. A landscape with a bull—77 guineas (Koek-Koek).

## FOREIGN.

## DISCOVERY OF A MEROVINGIAN BURIAL-GROUND.—

In his annual report to the prefectorial administration of the Seine Inférieure, the Abbé Cochet describes some interesting excavations which have been made at the village of Nesle-Hodeng, and which have brought a Merovingian burial-ground to light. Ten rows of trenches, each containing from fifteen to twenty graves, were examined. Several tombs had been already violated in past times. Amongst the more valuable objects discovered was a unique silver coin of Theodebert I., king of Austrasia (536 to 548), being an Imperial Roman coin altered to the currency of the barbarian king.

THE LOUVRE.—A portion of the Museum of the Louvre has been re-opened to the public, and the principal entrance removed from the Pavillon de l'Horloge to the Pavillon Denon. The rooms which are now accessible to visitors are those comprising the museum of antiquities, under the Apollo Gallery, formerly the apartments of Anne of Austria, the ceilings of which are decorated by Francesco Romanelli; the fine gallery of Roman Emperors, at the end of which is the statue of Augustus (the antique statue of Germanicus, which was in the Salle des Caryatides, is now placed in the centre of the Gallery of Emperors); the small room, containing the bas-relief of Diana with the fawn, which connects the old Louvre with the portion built by Louis XIV., and finally, the suite of rooms on the first floor, occupied by the Campana collection of ceramic ware.

## OBITUARY.

THE death is announced of Sirdar Shamsher Singh, Jagirdar, Magistrate of Raja Sansi, in the Umritsir district. The deceased Sirdar was the eldest representative of the family of Maharajah Runjeet Singh.

MR. JOSEPH GILLOTT, the steel pen manufacturer, died of pleurisy on the 5th inst. He was the first to use machinery for making steel pens. He leaves behind him one of the finest private art galleries in the country, valued at from 80,000*l.* to 100,000*l.*

DEATH OF A WATERLOO HERO.—One of the few survivors of the memorable 18th of June died in Dorchester on the 29th ult. John Cox, an inmate of Napier's almshouse in that town, served under Captain (afterwards Major) Garland, at the battle of Waterloo, and from an incident of the day, humourously related by himself, has been known in the neighbourhood by the sobriquet of "Cut and Run John." On the battle field, while retreating, it seems Cox recognized his captain lying among the wounded, seriously shot in the heel. At the imminent risk of his life he ran towards his prostrate officer, and, lifting him on his back, conveyed him away and was thus the means of saving him from death. In after years this courageous act was not forgotten by Major Garland, who until his death contributed liberally to the maintenance of the old soldier. By some mischance or oversight, however, Cox's claim upon the country was neglected, until about twelve months since he was awarded 1*s.* a day pension. He had suffered greatly from bronchitis, and died at the ripe age of 84, retaining all his faculties, and able to recount the incidents of the campaign, with quaintly told "recollections" of the Iron Duke and other June heroes.

DEATH OF A PARLIAMENTARY VETERAN.—On the 2nd ult. death carried off a venerable country gentleman, who was probably the very oldest ex-member of the House of Commons.—Mr. Charles Tyrell, of Plashwood and Gipping, Suffolk—within a few days of completing the 96th year of his age. The deceased gentleman was a son of the late Rev. Charles Tyrell, and cousin of Mr. Edmund Tyrell, of Gipping Hall, who was High Sheriff of Suffolk in 1774. Born in the year 1776, he took his Bachelor's degree at Emanuel College, Cambridge, three years before the beginning of the present century. He was one of the oldest magistrates and Deputy-Lieutenants of Suffolk, of which county he served as High Sheriff in the year in which Waterloo was fought. He sat in Parliament in the Liberal interest for his native county in 1830-32, and represented the western division of that county in the first Reformed Parliament. Early in the present century, if not before the end of the last, he held a commission in the West Suffolk Militia and in the Suffolk Volunteers, and at his death was probably the oldest member at once of the University of Cambridge and of our Militia and Volunteer forces. The deceased gentleman, who was twice married, has left an eldest son and successor to his estates, who is not very far short of 70 years of age.

DEATH OF A SWEDISH ARCHEOLOGIST.—Afzelius, the venerable collector of Swedish folk songs, died on the 25th of September last at Euköping, where he had been pastor for forty-nine years. His great work, "Svenska Folkets Sagohälder," was completed in 1870, the last part containing the history of Charles XII., since when no true popular legends have come into being.

## CENTENARIANS.

WILLIAM GAMMON, of Rupert Street, Bristol, died on the 9th inst. at the age of 101. He formerly belonged to the Royal Navy, and followed a seafaring life up to about his 80th year.

THE death of Mr. Matthew Greathead, of Richmond, Yorkshire, took place on December 31. He was taken ill early on Thursday the 28th, and died in the arms of his son

on Sunday morning. He was quite sensible until the last. He was in the 102nd year of his age, and was born at High Cunniscliffe, near Darlington, on April 23, 1770. He entered the Lennox Lodge, No. 123, of Freemasons, in the year 1797, and was a member seventy-five years. At the last annual appointment of officers he was appointed inner guard. He was the oldest Freemason in England, and supposed to be the oldest in the world.

## MISCELLANEA.

WE understand that the Rev. Edward Turner, editor of the *Sussex Archaeological Collections*, taking advantage of the Incumbents' Resignation Act, has retired from the rectory of Maresfield, Sussex, with which he has been so long identified. Mr. Turner was appointed to this living in 1837, and his contributions to Sussex archaeology are too well known to need any eulogy from our pen. There are no less than thirty papers bearing his name, many of considerable length, and on a variety of subjects, in the first twenty volumes of the *Collections* of the Sussex Archaeological Society.

AUTOGRAPHS.—An interesting letter from Warren Hastings to Sir Isaac Heard was among the items in a sale of the papers of the late Sir George Young, Garter. It notified his desire to attend the funeral of Lord Nelson—"I am most anxious to pay that respect to his revered memory; and if a place for that purpose may be allowed to a man of no 'degree, dignity, nor quality,' I shall have a double satisfaction, if I can also obtain it from your allotment." This relic fetched 4*l.*

CAPTAIN JOSEPH MAYER, F.S.A., has been presented by the inhabitants of Bebington with a portrait of himself, in commemoration of the opening of the Bebington Free Library and Park. Mr. Laird, M.P., presided, and a number of complimentary speeches were made.

NINETY YEARS' RESIDENCE IN ONE HOUSE.—Mr. Samuel Smith, of Packington, died on the 8th instant aged ninety years, within two months. When an infant three weeks old he was carried into the house in which he lived for ninety years, and in which he died at such a ripe old age. He was the oldest member of the Baptist church in that village, having been a member sixty-seven years.

His Majesty, the King of Italy, has been pleased to confer upon Sir Daniel Adolphus Lange, F.R.G.S., and F.S.A., the Order of Knight of the Crown of Italy.

THE Rev. Thomas Hugo, rector of West Hackney, and well known as an archeologist, has been dangerously ill during the last few days, but is now, we are glad to say, in course of recovery.

THE Exhibition of Neolithic and Stone Implements, which was opened by the Society of Antiquaries in December, and which was interrupted by the illness of the Prince of Wales, was re-opened on Friday, January 12, and finally closed on Thursday, January 18.

ARCHEOLOGICAL DISCOVERIES AT ATHENS.—Some interesting discoveries have been made in excavations at the Ceramicon of Athens. Several tombs, some quite intact, have been brought to light, and among them, it is said, is that of two ambassadors of Corcyra (Corfu), who formed part of the deputation under Xenophon, sent to ask for the assistance of the Athenians against the Lacedemonians. Another bears the name of Hipparele, daughter of Alcibiades. Other researches have led to finding a monument, composed of five tombs, bearing inscriptions, and belonging to the Vexpleos family; and a sixth, ornamented with a basso relievo composed of two women, one standing and the other seated.

LONDON WALL.—In excavating the site of 117, Newgate Street, which is being reconstructed, the workmen came upon a portion of the old London wall. It was found at a depth of about 7 ft. from the surface.